

RESOLUTIONS

PASSED AT

A MEETING OF THE CITIZENS OF BURKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA,

In favor of recognising the Independence of Texas, &c.

MAY 16, 1836.

Read, and ordered to be printed.

At a meeting of the citizens of Burke county, North Carolina, at the court-house in Morgantown, on Wednesday, the 27th day of April, 1836, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present condition of Texas,

Thomas W. Wilson, Esq. being called to the chair, and Colonel John E. Butler appointed secretary, the object of the meeting being explained by the chair, the following gentlemen were then appointed as a committee to draw up resolutions, viz : Doctor William A. Graham, Doctor John W. Carson, Samuel Fleming, Esq., James McEntire, Esq., Mark Brittain, Esq., Doctor Everett, S. Jones, and Captain Charles McDowell ; which committee, after retiring a short time, reported the following resolutions ; which were unanimously adopted :

1. *Resolved*, That we view with the deepest interest the struggle in which the infant republic of Texas is now engaged—a contest on one side for liberty and a free representative government, against a cruel and unrelenting despot ; one who disregards all the principles of Christian and civilized warfare ; who, with the sword in one hand, and a torch in the other, is waging a war of extermination against a people whose greatest offence is their love of free institutions, liberty, and independence, and the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. That we are opposed to the calculating policy that would stand by and see the heroic contest of kindred people, for the dearest rights of man, with cold-blooded indifference. Our fathers, under similar circumstances, appealed to mankind : the appeal was heard. After we had taken a stand among the nations of the earth, no people ever appealed to us in vain ; we were the first to recognise the independence of all the South American republics. Now, when one of these Governments, the Government of Mexico, is trampelling upon the sacred rights of a people whom she invited to migrate and settle the wild lands of the Brassos and Colorado, under the guarantee of life, liberty, and property being protected, shall a people towards whom Mexico has been false

and faithless in all these engagements, receive no cheering voice from the land of Washington? We say that Texas is a government *de facto*, and that her independence ought to be recognised.

2. *Resolved*, That Texas having declared her independence, and organized a government, and believing that her people are physically and morally capable of maintaining and administering a government, we therefore hold that she is entitled to be recognised by all civilized nations; and, standing in the relation she does to these United States, our Government ought to be the first to acknowledge Texas as an independent republic.

3. *Resolved*, That we, a portion of the citizens of Burke county, believing that we have a right to be heard in the councils of the nation, request our Senators and Representatives in Congress to present these resolutions to the consideration of that honorable body. We also request the honorable Henry Clay, Senator from Kentucky, the honorable Thomas H. Benton, Senator from Missouri, and the honorable Wm. C. Preston, Senator from South Carolina, to aid in promoting the object of these resolutions.

THOMAS W. WILSON,
Chairman.

JOHN E. BUTLER, *Secretary.*